



Joint Appropriations Committee on Transportation

March 15, 2011



MOBILITYFUND
NORTH CAROLINA



NC Mobility Fund

Session Law 2010-31, Section 28.7

Stakeholders required in project criteria and selection process

- General Public
- NC Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- NC Rural Planning Organizations
- NC League of Municipalities
- NC Association of County Commissioners
- NC Metropolitan Mayors Coalition
- NC Councils of Regional Governments

**October 1, 2010 → Preliminary Report on selection criteria to
Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee
(JLTOC)**

December 14, 2010 → Final Report to JLTOC





Project Selection

Phase II of Yadkin River Bridge/I-85 widening project will be first project (#1 mobility need)

Preferential consideration to Congestion Relief and Intermodal Transportation 21st Century Fund eligible projects

All modes are eligible





Funding

Sources: Phased Elimination of Highway Trust Fund (HTF) transfers & limited unused toll project gap funds

New dollars (not subject to Equity Formula) that will help entire State

Phased in over 4 years

Amounts:

FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14+
\$39 M	\$31 M	\$45 M	\$58 M

(Total through FY 14 = \$173M)





Inclusive / Collaborative Process

1. Public Input – *Two 30 day comment periods*

- Received comments from ~100 individuals/organizations

2. Workgroup

- Extensive input from key partners/stakeholders
- Process to score and rank projects should be easy to understand and reproducible
- Different modes of transportation should compete well
- The true need for the project should outweigh the project cost





Minimum Eligibility Project Requirements

Projects must be on Statewide or Regional Tier facilities (“Tier” designation is defined by the Department). Light rail, bus rapid transit and commuter rail projects are all eligible for Mobility Funds.

Projects must be ready to have funds obligated for construction within 5 years.

Projects must be consistent with MPO/RPO transportation planning efforts; Projects must be included in an adopted transportation plan; and must be found to be consistent with local land-use plans where available.

Projects must be in a conforming transportation plan in non-attainment or maintenance areas.

Only Project capital costs (right-of-way and construction) will be eligible for the Mobility Fund, not maintenance, operation, or planning costs.

No minimum Project capital cost will be established as a threshold for funding .

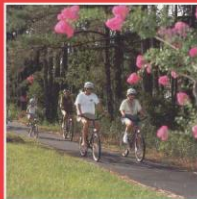
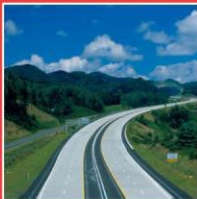




Final Criteria & Weights

CRITERIA	WEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
Mobility	60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measured by travel time savings (in vehicle hours) Used to compare projects across transportation modes
Multimodal	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes / No question Project improves more than one mode of travel
Intermodal Fund – Preferential Consideration	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes / No question Project meets requirements of the Intermodal & Congestion Relief Fund

Note: Project Scoring will occur on a 0 to 100 point scale



Sample Project Results

Mode	Route	Description	Length (miles)	Construction Cost (\$mil)	County	Travel Time Savings Points	Multimodal Points	Intermodal Fund Points	TOTAL POINTS
Note: Below are preliminary results based on available data & maybe subject to change						60%	20%	20%	100%
Rail	Pembroke Northeast Connector	Construct new rail shortcut	2.4	\$13.1	Robeson	100.00	100	100	100.00
Highway	I-77	Widen to 8 Lanes (6+2 HOT) From I-485 to NC 73 (Sam Furr Rd)	5.6	\$50.0	Mecklenburg	100.00	100	0	80.00
Transit	Lynx Blue Line	Construct new light rail line	11.0	\$1,000.0	Mecklenburg	39.96	100	100	63.97
Highway	Southern Wake Freeway	Construct Freeway on New Location	16.8	\$550.0	Wake	100.00	0	0	60.00
Highway	Wilmington Signal System	Construct Computerized Signal System	--	\$7.5	New Hanover	100.00	0	0	60.00



Sample Project Results

Pembroke Turn – greater than 50% increase in efficiency for moving freight

I-77 – needed widening project in currently congested corridor with HOT lanes

Lynx Blue Line – extension of current Lynx Blue Line to the northeast (downtown Charlotte to UNC-Charlotte campus). Construction of the transit line would likely reduce traffic demand on I-85 and thereby increase travel time savings for the motorists on the highway.

Southern Wake Freeway – NC 55 south of Apex to I-40 near Garner. Project will reduce traffic volumes on major nearby routes (I-440, I-40, NC 42, NC 55, & Ten Ten Road) and will provide an alternate route for local and through traffic.

Wilmington Signal System – improvement is a relatively inexpensive project (\$7.5M) but benefits a large number of users across a major city/regional area.



Other Key Criteria Considered But Not Included

Funding Leverage

% Contribution of non-Mobility dollars to lessen the overall cost of the project

Opportunity to stretch limited Mobility Fund dollars to deliver projects

Helps bring new dollars to the table

Why not included?

Not explicitly stated as a consideration in the legislation

“Pay to play” concept vs. true need for the project based on data

Possible urban vs. rural area concern





Other Key Criteria Considered But Not Included

Economic Impact

Proposed nationally recognized tool - TREDIS

Measure the quantitative impact of the transportation investment
i.e., jobs created, salaries increased, economic ripple affect

Relieving congestion improves attractiveness & business climate

Why not included?

Difficult to equate economic impact in one area versus another

50 jobs = big benefits to one community but small benefits to another

Confidence & explanation of model outputs still a concern





2011 Mobility Fund Solicitation

Candidate projects to be solicited in the Summer of 2011 from the same key stakeholders identified in the legislation which includes:

- General Public
- NC Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- NC Rural Planning Organizations
- NC League of Municipalities
- NC Association of County Commissioners
- NC Metropolitan Mayors Coalition
- NC Councils of Regional Governments

Evaluate, score and post results in the Fall of 2011





Questions?

